State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

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NEWS RELEASE

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PROTECT POSSESSIONS FROM FLOOD

Free app helps consumers create a home inventory, before disaster strikes

BOISE ID (March 14, 2012) – Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter has declared March 14-18, 2012, to be Idaho Flood Safety Awareness Week. The Idaho Department of Insurance reminds consumers to protect their homes with flood insurance and to complete a home inventory of their possessions.

"Idaho is vulnerable to flooding every spring," says Department Director Bill Deal. "Most homeowners' policies do not cover flood. Idahoans should create a detailed inventory of their personal possessions and review coverage with their agents to be sure the policy they have is adequate."

A recent survey conducted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) revealed 59 percent of consumers have not made an inventory of their possessions. Of those individuals with a home inventory, 48 percent do not have receipts; 27 percent do not have photos of their property; and 28 percent do not have a back-up copy of the inventory outside the home.

The NAIC *myHOME Scr.APP.book* application makes it easier for consumers to document their valuables, update their inventories and store the information for easy access after a disaster. The app is free and available for both iPhone® and Android® smart phone users.

The *myHOME Scr.APP.book* app lets users capture images, descriptions, bar codes and serial numbers of personal possessions and stores the information electronically for safekeeping. The app organizes information by room and creates a back-up file for email sharing. To download the free app, go to the iTunes® or Android® Market app stores and search "NAIC."

If you have questions or are confused about how and why to complete a home inventory, contact the Department by visiting www.doi.idaho.gov or calling 334-4250 in the Boise area, 800-721-3272 toll-free statewide. You can also visit http://www.insureuonline.org for more home insurance tips.